

Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Sphaenorhynchus prasinus* Bokermann, 1973: First record of the genus and species for the State of Alagoas, Brazil

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ABSTRACT: *Sphaenorhynchus prasinus* is a medium sized frog belonging to the genus. The geographic distribution comprises southeast and northeast of Brazil. Herein, we report for the first time the occurrence of *Sphaenorhynchus prasinus* and of the genus in the State of Alagoas.

The genus *Sphaenorhynchus* Tschudi, 1838 can be characterized by the following morphological synapomorphies: posterior ramus of pterygoid absent; zygomatic ramus of squamosal absent or reduced to small knob; pars facialis of maxilla and alary process of premaxilla reduced; postorbital process of maxilla reduced, not in contact with quadratojugal; neopalatine reduced to sliver or absent; pars externi plectri entering tympanic ring posteriorly; pars externa plectri round; hyale curved medially; coracoids and clavicles elongate; transverse process of presacral vertebra IV elongate, oriented posteriorly; prepollex ossified, bladelike (Duellman and Wiens 1992).

The genus *Sphaenorhynchus* is composed of fourteen species, three with distribution in the Amazon basin [*S. carneus* (Cope, 1868); *S. dorisae* (Goin, 1957); and *S. lacteus* (Daudin, 1800)], ten in the Brazilian Atlantic Forest [*S. botocudo* Caramaschi, Almeida, and Gasparini, 2009; *S. bromelicola* Bokermann, 1966; *S. caramaschii* Toledo, Garcia, Lingnau, and Haddad, 2007; *S. mirim* Caramaschi, Almeida, and Gasparini, 2009; *S. orophilus* (Lutz and

Lutz, 1938); *S. palustris* Bokermann, 1966; *S. pauloalvini* Bokermann, 1973; *S. planicola* (Lutz and Lutz, 1938); *S. prasinus* Bokermann, 1973; and *S. surdus* (Cochran, 1953)], and one with unknown distribution [*S. platycephalus* (Werner, 1894)] (Frost 2013). *Sphaenorhynchus prasinus* is a medium-sized frog (SVL 28-31 mm) for the genus, characterized by a black canthus rostralis, and white anal flap and skin folds of the arm and tarsus.

The species occurs in the Brazilian states of Bahia (Bokermann 1973; Juncá 2006), Minas Gerais (Feio *et al.* 1998, 1999; Feio and Caramaschi 2002), Pernambuco (Santos and Moura 2009), and Espírito Santo (Caramaschi *et al.* 2009). It inhabits secondary forests, clearings in forests and forest edges, and breeds in temporary ponds (Pimenta and Carvalho-e-Silva 2004).

During field work from 19-29 April 2008 at Reserva Biológica de Pedra Talhada, Municipality of Quebrangulo (09°14' S, 36°25' W; approximately 850 m elevation), State of Alagoas, vocalizing adult *Sphaenorhynchus prasinus* were seen in temporary ponds. A voucher specimen was collected and deposited in the Amphibian Collection of the

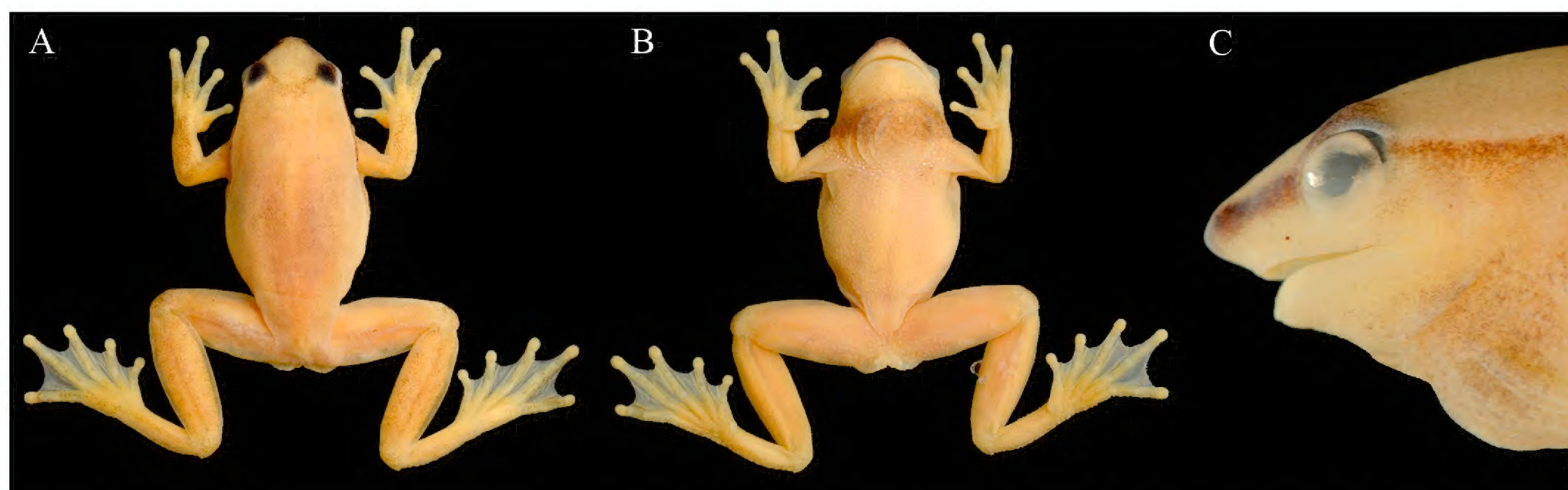


FIGURE 1. Adult male of *Sphaenorhynchus prasinus* (ZUFRJ 14090, SVL 28.6 mm) from Reserva Biológica de Pedra Talhada, Municipality of Quebrangulo, State of Alagoas, Brazil. A: dorsal view. B: ventral view. C: lateral view of the head. Photos: C. L. Dias.

Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (ZUFRJ 14090). The specimen was collected under permit (number 15134-1) issued by Instituto Chico Mendes (ICMBio) and Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais e Renováveis (IBAMA). The specimen is a male, SVL 28.6 mm (Figure 1). This is the first record of *S. prasinus* from Alagoas, extending its known distribution approximately 200 km southwest of the Estação Ecológica de Taparua in Municipality of São Lourenço da Mata (8°1'59" S, 35°10'59" W; 140 m), Pernambuco (Santos and Moura 2009), and approximately 400 km northeast of the Reserva Sapiranga in Municipality of Mata de São João (12°56'81" S, 38°01'39" W; 200 m), Bahia (Juncá 2006) (Figure 2).

Sphaenorhynchus prasinus has a decreasing population trend (Pimenta and Carvalho-e-Silva 2004). This record shows that there are still populations of *S. prasinus* at higher elevations, although lower-elevation areas

are more heavily impacted. The State of Alagoas is an important biogeographical gap in northeastern Brazil, and we suggest that the intensification of future studies in the region will reveal new records of species. Our record contributes to the knowledge of the geographical distribution of *S. prasinus* and enables a better assessment of its conservation status.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: We are grateful to R. MacCulloch and U. Caramaschi for valuable suggestions on the manuscript.

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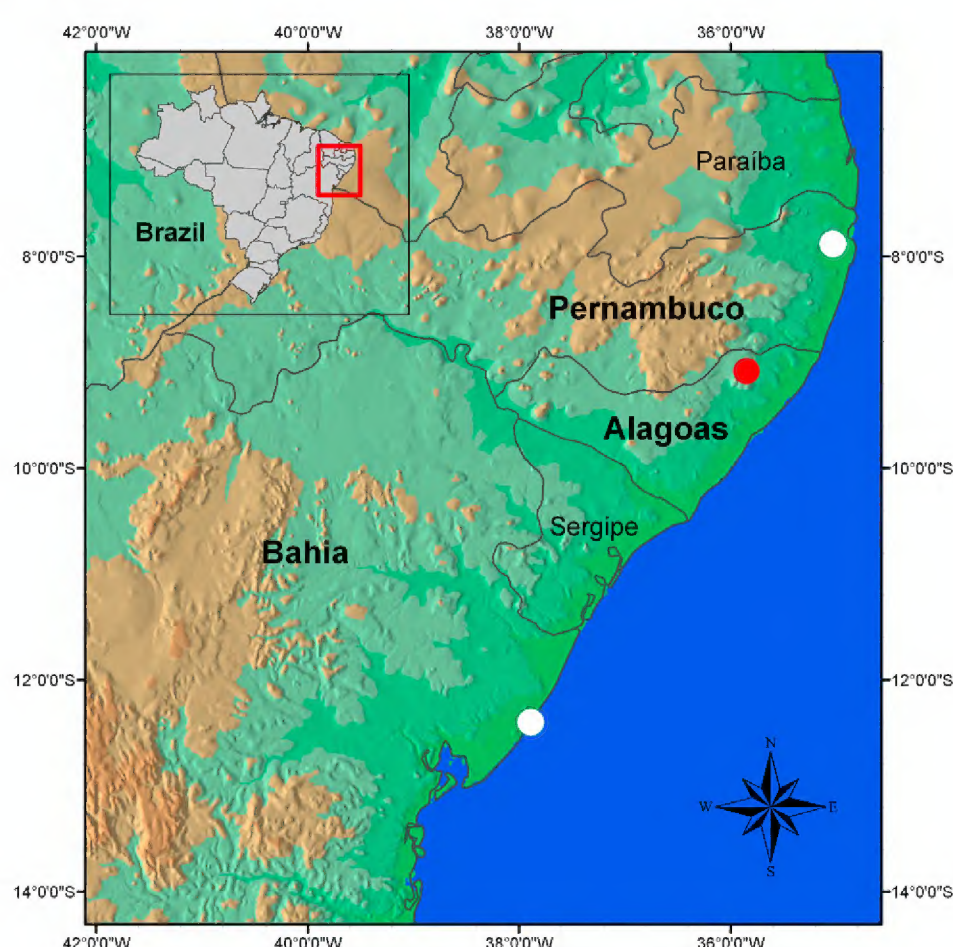


FIGURE 2. Map showing the new record of *Sphaenorhynchus prasinus*. Red circle: new record in Reserva Biológica de Pedra Talhada, Municipality of Quebrangulo., Alagoas. White circles: Municipality of São Lourenço da Mata, Pernambuco, and Municipality of Mata de São João, Bahia.

RECEIVED: September 2013

ACCEPTED: November 2013

PUBLISHED ONLINE: November 2013

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Ross MacCulloch